

Hundredth Legislature - Second Session - 2008 Introducer's Statement of Intent LB 723

Chairperson: Vickie McDonald Committee: General Affairs Date of Hearing: January 28, 2008

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 723 revises the Nebraska State Electrical Act. The National Electrical Code is updated every three years. This legislation would update our current minimum standards for electrical wiring from the 2005 to the 2008 edition. It requires employees of municipal corporations, public power districts, etc. doing electrical work to be qualified in electrical maintenance. (They are currently exempt from licensing and inspection requirements.) LB 723 also increases a fee from \$50 to \$250 for a person filing a late request for an inspection. This fee has not been updated since 1982. The supervisory fee of fifty cents was added into a \$25.00 minimum fee in 1993 and is no longer needed. Regarding reciprocity with other states, LB 723 adds the requirement that an electrician must be licensed by state examination in such other state. This brings the Act in compliance with our multi-state reciprocal journeyman licensing agreement.

Finally, LB 723 makes it easier for cities or counties to request an inspection by the State Electrical Division. Currently, statutes allow only for commercial property inspections of existing electrical violations observed during inspection of new wiring, unless done in conjunction with the State Fire Marshall. This bill would allow the State Electrical Division to inspect existing installation at the request of an elected or appointed local official.

| Principal Introducer: | |
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| | Senator L. Patrick Engel |